

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RABAT 02157 201000Z

13

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /078 W

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R 200911Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8370

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

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KUWAIT PLEASE PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MO XF

SUBJECT: PRIMIN TO MAKE GULF SWING

1. PRIMIN AHMED OSMAN DEPARTS APRIL 20 FOR SERIES OF "OFFICIAL" VISITS TO SAUDI ARABIA, IRAQ, KUWAIT, BAHRAIN, QATAR, UAE AND OAMN. HE TRAVELLING WITH DELEGATION HEAVILY WEIGHTED ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION SIDE. AIMS OF TRIP DESCRIBED AS: (1) REINFORCEMENT OF FRIENDSHIP, (2) UNDERTAKING JOINT EFFORTS IN VARIOUS ASPECTS OF ARAB AND MOSLEM AFFAIRS, AND (3) ORGANIZATION OF BASES OF COOPERATION IN DIVERSE SECTORS.

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PAGE 02 RABAT 02157 201000Z

2. INCLUDED IN DELEGATION ARE: ABBAS KAISSI, MINISTER OF JUSTICE;

ABDELKAMEL RAGHAYE, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FINANCE; TAIEB BENCHEIKH, SECRETARY OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE IN CHARGE OF PLAN AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT; MOUSSA SAADI, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMERCE, INDUSTRY, MINES AND THE MERCHANT MARINE; AND MOHAMED SAADANI, DIRECTOR OF THE NEAR EAST DEPARTMENT, FOREIGN MINISTRY.

3. LOCAL PRESS HAS CONFIRMED FOREIGN MINISTER LARAKI'S COMMENT TO AMBASSADOR ON APRIL 15 THAT TOM AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON ABDELHADI BOUTALIB, WHO FREQUENTLY USED BY KING FOR SPECIAL MISSIONS, WOULD SEE SAUDI KING KHALED APRIL 17 IN RIYADH, AND THAT HE HAD MESSAGE FROM HASSAN.

4. COMMENT: OSMAN MISSION TO THESE FRIENDLY COUNTRIES, MANY OF WHICH HAVE ALREADY SUPPORTED GOM FINANCIALLY AND POLITICALLY IN ITS CAMPAIGN TO "RECUPERATE" SAHARA, SEEMS DESIGNED TO OBTAIN MORE OF SAME AT A TIME WHEN (A) EURO LOAN LOOKS AS THOUGH IT WILL BE \$100 MILLION LESS THAN ORIGINALLY PLANNED (B) DOMESTIC INFLATION IS WORSE THAN EXPECTED, AND (C) FRENCH LOAN WAS \$20 MILLION LESS THAN HOPED FOR.

5. AT SAME TIME, TRIP TAKES PLACE IN CONTEXT OF HORDE OF GOM EMISSARIES TRAVELLING ALL OVER WORLD TO DRUM UP SUPPORT FOR MOROCCAN POSITION ON SAHARA IN UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL FORA, ESPECIALLY MAY ISTANBUL ISLAMIC FONMINS' MEETING AND AUGUST NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE. FACT THAT PRIMIN HEADING DELEGATION TO THESE COUNTRIES POINTS UP THEIR IMPORTANCE IN MOROCCAN STRATEGY. ANDERSON

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